

But let the divinely wrought links be allowed to remain as they are, and the divinely appointed connexion be preserved, and the chain is not too short for the work contemplated by its maker. No link of redemption, or adoption, or sanctification is needed, and none should be supplied ; because the chain is attached to them that love God, and that therefore has been redeemed, adopted and sanctified by other means previously considered.

In fine, the series of Scripture terms employed have nothing whatever to do with any plan, whether Calvinistic or Arminian, of saving them that do not love God, from guilt and depravity, into final and everlasting glory. On the other hand, they refer solely to them that love God, "viewed in relation to the sufferings of the present time." Some have admitted that the words under consideration are capable of being applied, in part, to the topic just mentioned, and to which the apostle's previous remarks undoubtedly refer. But, in their view, the reference is merely indirect. And, therefore, it is only in an incidental manner that they take notice of it. They merely hint, parenthetically, that it has this, in addition to a widely different design, which, with their utmost efforts, they try to present prominently, and to impress permanently. Thus they virtually make void, and set aside, the other, and previously admitted, application.

Yet to this the inspired words apply more appropriately, than to any other topic. And used thus, they exhibit nothing to divide, or perplex, the brethren of Christ ; but much that is directly intended, and admirably fitted, to unite and harmonize, as well as individually to glorify, every child of God in every Denomination.